



SENATOR JEFF PLALE
SEVENTH SENATE DISTRICT

CHAIR
COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, UTILITIES, ENERGY, AND RAIL

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 7882
MADISON, WI 53707-7882

800-361-5487 - MADISON
414-744-1444 - MILWAUKEE
SEN.PLALE@LEGIS.WISCONSIN.GOV

**Testimony of Senator Jeff Plale
Senate Bill 281
Senate Committee on Judiciary, Corrections, Insurance, Campaign Finance
Reform, and Housing
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Thank you, Senator Taylor and fellow members of the committee, for your consideration of Senate Bill 281.

The purpose of this legislation is to address incidences where victims, usually women, have been videotaped or photographed without their consent by voyeurs.

Currently in Wisconsin, if a person secretly films or photographs another person in the nude, or is responsible for distributing or showing such material, that person cannot be required by a judge to register as a sex offender. We authored this bill so that video voyeurism is included as an offense for which registration is discretionary. If a judge finds that the crime is sexually motivated, he or she may then require registration.

Today's technology makes this statutory change necessary. Small digital cameras, camera phones, and cameras on mp3 players are increasingly portable and discreet. The internet allows rapid dissemination of photos and the damaging effects can be widespread in a very small amount of time. There ought to be protection for those who are victims of a crime which is so personal in nature and so easy to commit.

Just as the public has a right to know if a sex offender is located in their neighborhood, they also have the right to know when a video voyeur is living nearby because it poses a similar risk.

Thank you for your consideration of SB 281.

